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<b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/GB99/02906 <b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 3 September 1999 (03.09.99)  <b>(30) Priority Data:</b> 9819392.3 4 September 1998 (04.09.98) GB  <b>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):</b> BALAENA LIMITED [GB/GB]; 3 De Walden Court, 85 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 7RA (GB).  <b>(72) Inventor; and</b> <b>(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only):</b> MATHER, Andrew, Harvey [GB/GB]; 16 Clareville Court, Clareville Grove, London SW7 5AT (GB).  <b>(74) Agent:</b> ABNETT, Richard, C.; Reddie & Grose, 16 Theobalds Road, London WC1X 8PL (GB).		<b>(81) Designated States:</b> AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).  <b>Published</b> <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>

(54) Title: TRANSACTIONAL COMPUTER SYSTEM

## (57) Abstract

A transactional computer system comprises a plurality of entities including at least one entity of each of the following forms, a Thing entity having the properties of identifying a client system and uniquely identifying an object in that client system, a Proposal entity for defining a transaction, the Proposal entity being subordinate directly or indirectly to a Thing entity and having the properties of modelling at least one external agent to carry out a transformation in relation to the first entity, and a Decision entity capable of communicating with a Proposal entity and having the properties of defining the types of decision that may be made, and determining the responses in relation to those decisions. The system preferably further comprises at least one Assignment entity subordinate to an associated Thing entity, the Assignment entity having the properties of uniquely identifying the associated Thing entity, and identifying a particular type of assignment or transformation to be applied to the Thing entity. This entity may be combined with the Proposal entity. Additionally the computer system preferably comprises at least one Tender entity associated with a plurality of Proposal entities and a single Thing entity, and identifying at least a quantity.

